

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Marine Barracks, Charleston Navy Yard

Other names/site number: Building M-17, Naval Base Charleston

Name of related multiple property listing:

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

N/A

2. Location

Street & number: Truxtun Avenue between Marine and Goldberg Avenues

City or town: North Charleston State: SC County: Charleston

Not For Publication: ☐ Vicinity: ☐

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide X local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

X A B X C D

Signature of certifying official/Title:

Date

State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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In my opinion, the property ___ meets ___ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of commenting official:

Date

Title :

State or Federal agency/bureau
or Tribal Government

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

___ entered in the National Register

___ determined eligible for the National Register

___ determined not eligible for the National Register

___ removed from the National Register

___ other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

Private:

☐

Public – Local

☐

Public – State

☒

Public – Federal

☐

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

Building(s)

☒

District

☐

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Site

☐

Structure

☐

Object

☐

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing

Noncontributing

1

buildings

1

sites

structures

objects

2

Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

6. Function or Use
Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DEFENSE: military facility

DOMESTIC: institutional housing

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

VACANT/NOT IN USE

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY REVIVALS: Classical Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Foundation: Concrete; Walls: brick; Roof:
composition shingles

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Designed in 1909 by architect Jules Henri de Sibour, the Marine Barracks (Building M-17) was constructed in 1910 at the Charleston Navy Yard for the United States Marine Corps (USMC) detachment stationed at the naval installation to guard the shipyard. The monumental Classical Revival-style, masonry, "E"-shaped-plan building is two stories atop of a raised basement and faces an open green space that served as the parade ground. The Marine Barracks sits between two National Register listed districts: the Charleston Navy Yard Historic District¹ to the east, and the Charleston Naval Hospital Historic District² to the northwest, in the northern section of the former Navy Base Charleston, in North Charleston, South Carolina. The barracks does not have clear historical associations with the Naval Hospital and, although historically associated with the Charleston Navy Yard, is separated from the historic district by modern industrial development.

¹ Listed in the National Register of Historic Places on August 9, 2006.

² Listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 22, 2010.

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Narrative Description

Site location

Built in 1910, the Marine Barracks was constructed on relatively flat land in the Marine Reservation, at the northwestern portion of the larger Charleston Navy Yard.³ According to a 1941 Navy Yard map, the Marine Barracks was located within the approximately forty-six-acre Marine Reservation between Naval Officer duplexes and Marine Corps Officer quarters to the west, the Naval Hospital to the north, rail lines to the south, and the industrial shipyard to the east. In addition, by 1941 other Marine support buildings and structures had been constructed just north of the barracks. To the west, USMC Officers' quarters included single-family dwellings for the Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, Post Exchange Officer, and Marine Officer. A Marine Gate was in this area at the western border of the Navy Yard (see Figures 1 and 2).⁴ Since then, several of the Marine Officers' quarters have been demolished or replaced with new buildings.

Nearby extant buildings on the Marine Reservation include Marine Officers' dwellings and garage buildings (M-5, duplex M-6 and M-7, duplex M-8 and M-9 now contributing resources within the Charleston Naval Hospital NRHP District) to the west on Marine Avenue, M-82 north of the barracks, and a possible dormitory building (Building 766) southeast of M-17, constructed in the mid-1970s.

The barracks faces south on an open grassed yard that served as a parade ground.⁵ The former parade ground extends roughly 350 feet south of the building and is approximately 180 feet wide. The barracks and the parade ground form the Marine Barracks, Charleston Navy Yard historic property.

Exterior

The three-story masonry building is constructed of red brick and built in the Classical Revival style. The Marine Barracks covers 25,784 square feet and is approximately 130 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 55 feet tall.⁶ Two floors sit atop a raised basement. The building has a full basement partially below ground level and a full height attic. The "E"-shaped-plan building is constructed

³Tucker, Hampton. "Marine Corps Barracks," Preliminary National Register of Historic Places nomination. 1993. Goodwin, *Inventory, Evaluation, and Nomination of Military Installations: Naval Base Charleston, Final Report*. 1995; R. Christopher Goodwin and Assoc. *Inventory, Evaluation, and Nomination of Military Installations: Naval Base Charleston, Final Report*. Frederick, Maryland. Prepared for the US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District. 1995, p. 28.

⁴ U.S. Naval Yard Map, Charleston, S.C. Section 1, June 30, 1941.

⁵ Bean, Jana. *Architectural Survey for the Intermodal Container Transfer Facility at the Charleston Naval Base, North Charleston, South Carolina*. Prepared for South Carolina Public Railways, Charleston, South Carolina, p. 48; Marine Barracks – North Charleston, S.C. Accessed via <https://www.scpictureproject.org/charleston-county/marine-barracks.html>.

⁶Tucker, Hampton. "Marine Corps Barracks," Preliminary National Register of Historic Places nomination. 1993. Goodwin, *Inventory, Evaluation, and Nomination of Military Installations: Naval Base Charleston, Final Report*. 1995.

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with a central rectangular block and three rectangular wings projecting north from the rear of the central block. The east and west wings are also three stories tall, and the central wing projects farther north than the other two and is four stories tall. Two exterior brick chimneys rise from the central rear projection of the building. Each chimney has corbelled detailing at the top.

The central block of the barracks has a low slope mansard roof with flared eaves, and each of the rear wings has a low slope hipped roof with flared eaves. Each roof is currently sheathed with composition shingles, although a 1975 plan shows the roofing material was standing seam tin.⁷ The building features hipped dormers with flared eaves, five of which punctuate the roof along the primary (south) elevation. Two dormers project east from the roof of the east wing, and two identical dormers project west on the west wing. The exterior of the entire building is currently painted brick. The exterior brick walls are laid in running bond with concrete detailing. The prominent entablature that wraps the entire building features a molded cornice and wide frieze band. The foundation is concrete. A concrete watercourse lined with soldier course brick surrounds the building above the basement level. The basement level is separated from the rest of the building with brickwork laid of contrasting recessed and projecting horizontal bands.

Windows are symmetrically arranged and generally consist of six-over-six light, double-hung, wood sash windows on the main floors of the entire building and protruding wings. Two-over-two light, double-hung, wood sash windows and some single-light windows are in the upper floors of the central projecting rear wing. Windows are eight-over-eight light, double-hung, wood sash windows at the basement level. All windows have smooth concrete sills, and most have brick jack arches or lintels. Both the first and second floors have a symmetrical fenestration pattern with rows of windows and doors. Several basement level-windows (Photo 6) and an entry door (Photo 16) have been infilled with brick. Exterior doors on the second story of the main elevation are wood panel doors with nine lights with a transom above the door. A main entry door on the first floor is mothballed but it appears that it is a pair of double doors with a transom above. Secondary entries are located at the rear (Photo 9) and basement (Photo 14).

The barracks' primary façade on the south elevation (Photo 1) faces the parade ground. A two-story, thirteen-bay, full-façade portico spans this elevation. The portico roof is supported by fourteen Doric-inspired, square, brick columns and entablature exhibiting decorative wooden triglyphs. The brick columns sit atop the basement level. The first floor of the portico is accessible by two sets of protruding concrete staircases that lead directly onto the parade ground. Two primary entrances are located on the first floor at the off-center staircases. A ghost of an additional door, now infilled with brick, is east of the main double-doors. An open metal-pipe balustrade is on the first and second floors of the portico. Mothballed windows and louvered vents are found at the raised basement level.

The east and west elevations, like the front façade, exhibit refined Classical Revival detailing in the brickwork and symmetrical fenestration pattern. The west elevation features five windows on the first and second floors and four at the basement level, with one additional infilled window and another at the basement level under the portico. The east elevation features five windows on

⁷ Building M-17, Repair and Repainting of Roof, Naval Station, Charleston, S.C. 1975.

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each of the three levels and one additional mothballed entry at the basement level under the portico. The north elevation or rear façade of the building also exhibits the restrained classical design with limited ornamentation. Classical Revival detailing is confined to the subtle changes in brickwork patterns at the chimney tops, at the basement level, and at the fourth floor of the central projecting wing.

Interior

According to the 1909 plans, the basement spaces were delineated for a carpenter shop, tailor, barber shop, gymnasium, and kitchen storage in the central rear wing, and a bowling alley under the portico (see Figure 3).⁸ The first floor included dormitories and non-commissioned officers' quarters on the west wing; a kitchen and pantry in the central protruding wing; a large mess hall with seating capacity for 156 in the central block; and larger quarters for the Quarter Master, Officer of the Day, and Commanding Officer on the east wing (see Figure 4).⁹ The second floor featured large open dormitories in the east wing, west wing, and central block and bathrooms with showers, toilets, and separate lavatories in the central projecting wing (see Figure 5).¹⁰ A 1939 Navy Base floor plan of the attic shows a rifle range was installed in the attic.¹¹

The floor plans remained largely unchanged through World War II and into the mid-1980s. Floor plans from 1961 show interior renovations and changes to finishes such as removal of some of the plaster ceilings, installation of new suspended insulating tile ceilings on metal lath, and installation of new terrazzo flooring.¹² Interior plaster was repaired, and the interior was repainted in 1970. A set of floor plans from 1985 show asbestos removal, partial interior demolition, the addition of a concrete ramp at rear entrance, and dormitory spaces converted to offices on the first and second floors.¹³ Large open dormitories were divided up into small office spaces. Open community spaces were located near the center of the building.¹⁴

Integrity

Currently, the Marine Barracks shows signs of deterioration, water damage, mold, and vandalism. The exterior brick has blistering paint. Several windowpanes in the wood frame windows and doors are broken. Portions of the main roof have holes and are open to the elements. The interior finishes are in a state of decay. Throughout the building, holes in the floors and ceilings expose building material, pipes, and wires, and the suspended tile ceiling is falling. Although water damage and deterioration from neglect have affected the interior, the building retains its original character-defining features of an early twentieth-century masonry Classical Revival barracks facing its parade ground.

⁸ U.S. Marine Corps Barracks, Basement Plan, Charleston, S.C. 1909.

⁹ U.S. Marine Corps Barracks, First Story Plan, Charleston, S.C. 1909.

¹⁰ U.S. Marine Corps Barracks, Second Story Plan, Charleston, S.C. 1909.

¹¹ Marine Reservation Building No. 17 Rifle Range in Attic Plan, Nov. 20, 1939.

¹² Marine Barracks, U.S. Naval Base, Charleston, S.C. Renovations to Bldgs. M-17 & M-82, 2nd and 3rd Floor Plans – Existing Bldg. M-17, 1961.

¹³ Renovations to Building M-17, Naval Supply Center, Charleston Naval Shipyard, Charleston, S.C. 1985, “As built” (no changes) 1987.

¹⁴ Ibid.

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According to floor plans, routine maintenance was performed on the exterior and interior and several interior systems were upgraded. Floor plans from 1961 show that suspended ceiling tile was installed in dormitory areas. Floor plans from 1985 show the proposed renovations in which the interior dormitory spaces are converted to administrative offices on the first and second floors. Only minor interior alterations were performed when converting the building from residential to administrative use. Limited exterior modifications include replacing the original roof material with composition shingles, the addition of fixed louvers to the dormer gables, and painting of the exterior brick. Several basement level-windows and at least one door have also been infilled with brick. However, the building retains its overall integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- ☐ A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- ☐ B. Removed from its original location
- ☐ C. A birthplace or grave
- ☐ D. A cemetery
- ☐ E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- ☐ F. A commemorative property
- ☐ G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

MILITARY

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1910-1976

Significant Dates

1910

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

de Sibour, Jules Henri

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Marine Barracks, Charleston Navy Yard property is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places at the local level under Criterion A for its association with the establishment and development of the Charleston Navy Yard (later named Charleston Naval Shipyard and later Naval Base Charleston) in North Charleston, South Carolina, from 1910 through 1976. The Marine Barracks building, the most prominent component of the United States Marine Corps (USMC) presence at the Navy Yard, is significant in the area of military history, as it illustrates the important role the USMC played in guarding the shipyard and the Navy's activities at the shipyard through the significant operational period from its establishment through both World Wars and into the mid-1970s. The Marine Barracks property is also eligible at the local level under Criterion C for architecture as an excellent example of one of the original group of early twentieth-century Classical Revival-style buildings constructed at the Charleston Navy Yard. Although roughly adjacent to the National Register listed Charleston Naval Hospital Historic District, the Marine Barracks does not fit within the significance of that district. While the barracks does have strong historical associations with the nearby Charleston Navy Yard Historic District, it is separated from the district by substantial industrial development.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Criterion A: Military

Establishment and Early Development of Charleston Navy Yard

The Marine Barracks and the Charleston Navy Yard that it served are associated with, and came about as part of, a massive buildup in American military infrastructure in the early twentieth century. At that time, the United States government adopted a more expansive foreign policy that increasingly leveraged the country's military and economic power in pursuit of national interests abroad. Within the U.S. Navy, this trend manifested in the use of new shipbuilding and armament technologies as well as the expansion of infrastructure with shore establishments. New shipyards required permanent structures, and many of these shop buildings utilized structural steel frame, concrete, and brick. During this period, new naval institutions were planned and constructed incorporating popular turn of the twentieth-century, classical-inspired architectural styles such as Beaux Arts, Second Empire, and Classical Revival styles.¹⁵

During this period, the Navy also began attaching greater strategic importance to the South Atlantic region, an area traditionally maintained by the naval facility at Port Royal, South Carolina. Access limitations and aging structures at Port Royal, which ultimately led to the

¹⁵ R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc., *Inventory, Evaluation, and Nomination of Military Installations: Naval Base Charleston, Final Report*. (Frederick, Maryland. 1995)

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base's closure by 1900, prompted calls from local and state politicians for a new naval facility to be constructed at Charleston.¹⁶ Congress subsequently authorized the creation of a naval shipyard in Charleston in 1900, leading to the development of a general plan for the Charleston Naval Yard that included dry docks, brick shop buildings, and officers' quarters. By the turn of the twentieth century, the U.S. government had already purchased most of Charleston's 600-acre Chicora Park, much of the adjacent Marshlands Plantation, and other land to the south of Chicora Park on the western banks of the Cooper River and had started construction of the Charleston Navy Yard. The U.S. Navy paid the City of Charleston \$34,307 for 171 acres of Chicora Park and \$50,000 for 258 acres of the old Marshlands Plantation. The City of Charleston also conveyed 760 acres of marshland south of Marshlands Plantation for \$1.00. Construction of the shipyard continued through the first decade of the twentieth century. Notable brick industrial and administrative buildings were constructed in high styles of the period, including the Classic Revival style Marine Barracks completed in 1910.¹⁷

Marine Reservation and Barracks at the Charleston Navy Yard

The Marine Barracks at the Charleston Navy Yard was part of a wave of turn of the century military construction that expanded and enhanced the United States Marine Corps presence at American Navy bases. During the nineteenth century, the USMC served the Navy by providing a presence on naval ships as well as guarding installations. Typically, Marine reservations were smaller components within a Navy installation and included a barracks to house both officers and enlisted men, facing a parade ground. Marine barracks followed this general design, which consisted of a central barracks for enlisted men flanked on either end by multi-story quarters for officers or families. Marine barracks were built in different architectural styles, reflecting the prevalent styles of the time and place.¹⁸

After the Spanish-American War in 1898, Congress authorized funds for construction and improvement of many Marine barracks at naval shipyards. In the early twentieth century, the Bureau of Yards and Docks was tasked with numerous undertakings for the USMC, such as contracting designs and construction of USMC barracks. USMC personnel increased rapidly leading up to World War I. Marine reservations at naval installations were important to adequately house, accommodate, and train USMC recruits.¹⁹ New Marine reservations at shipyards were generally small, with at least one barracks that faced a parade ground, a small grouping of officer housing, and a few support buildings.²⁰

¹⁶ R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc. *National Historic Context for Department of Defense Installations, 1790-1940, Volumes III of IV*. (Frederick: 1995), p. 225-227. Hamer, Fritz P. *Charleston Reborn: A Southern City, Its Navy Yard, and World War II*. (Charleston: The History Press, 2005).

¹⁷ R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc. *National Historic Context for Department of Defense Installations, 1790-1940, Volumes III of IV*. (Frederick: 1995), p. 225-227. Tucker, Hampton et al., Charleston Naval Yard Officers Quarters Historic District National Register of Historic Places nomination, 2007. McNeil, Jim. *Charleston's Navy Yard, A Picture History*. Charleston: Naval Civilian Administrators Association, 1985, p. 40.

¹⁸ Carlson, Stephen P. *Charlestown Navy Yard Historic Resource Study*. 2010. U.S. Department of the Interior. Boston, Massachusetts.

¹⁹ United States. Bureau of Yards and Docks. *Activities of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, Navy Department, World War 1917-1918*. Washington, D.C. 1921, p. 93-94

²⁰ Goodwin, *Inventory, Evaluation, and Nomination of Military Installations: Naval Base Charleston, Final Report*. 1995, p. 28.

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A Marine detachment was stationed at the Charleston Navy Yard soon after its opening to guard the naval yard and the activities occurring there.²¹ Since African Americans were excluded from the Marine Corps until 1942, the detachment would have been exclusively white.²² The Marines occupied a temporary barracks northwest of the shipyard at the naval base on land that the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery purchased in 1902 for a future naval hospital. By 1910, the Navy Yard expanded its shipbuilding capabilities, and the Charleston Navy Yard experienced growth associated with this expansion.²³ The Classical Revival-style Marine Barracks was built in 1910 on the Marine Reservation (see Figure 8).²⁴

As the first permanent housing for Marines stationed at the Charleston Navy Yard, the Marine Barracks has a unique association with the USMC personnel who provided key services to the Yard in a period of tremendous growth. The Charleston Navy Yard, like much of the rest of the U.S. Navy's shore establishments, entered a period of expansion leading up to World War I. By 1910, the Navy Yard had twenty-eight permanent buildings including the Marine Barracks.²⁵ The Navy Yard was functioning by the early 1910s, first repairing navy vessels and later constructing naval ships. The U.S. government backed funding for improving navy yards and constructing naval vessels in the early decades of the twentieth century.²⁶ Attention for increased activity at the Navy Yard heightened in 1913 with the opening of the Panama Canal, as Charleston was the closest U.S. Navy installation to Panama.²⁷ The USMC detachment at the Charleston Navy Yard, housed in the Marine Barracks, maintained the security of the installation during this period of increased growth. In 1914, the USMC detachment consisted of four officers and 131 non-commissioned officers and men.²⁸

With the U.S. entry into World War I in 1917, activities at the Charleston Navy Yard progressed rapidly. On May 3, 1917, the Bureau of Yards and Docks was advised to proceed with construction of semi-bungalow type accommodations for up to 5,000 naval recruits. By 1918, the Navy Yard provided standard detention-camp barracks for 3,500 men in training and housed even more in tent-style detention camps.²⁹ Semi-bungalow type structures were built on the Marine Reservation property to house men at the naval training camp. The Navy was repairing ships and constructing naval vessels, and running a machinist's mates' school, an ammunition

²¹ *ibid.*

²² MacGregor, Morris J., Jr., *Defense Studies Series: Integration of the Armed Forces 1940-1965* (Washington, D.C.: Center of Military History, United States Army, 2001), 100-101.

²³ Goodwin, *Inventory, Evaluation, and Nomination of Military Installations: Naval Base Charleston, Final Report*. 1995, p. 29

²⁴ *ibid.*

²⁵ R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc. *National Historic Context for Department of Defense Installations, 1790-1940, Volumes III of IV*. (Frederick: 1995). p. 225-227

²⁶ *Ibid.*

²⁷ Tucker, Hampton et al., Charleston Naval Yard Officers Quarters Historic District nomination, 2007.

²⁸ Tucker, Hampton. "Marine Corps Barracks," Preliminary National Register of Historic Places nomination. 1993. Goodwin, *Inventory, Evaluation, and Nomination of Military Installations: Naval Base Charleston, Final Report*. 1995.

²⁹ United States. Bureau of Yards and Docks. *Activities of the Bureau of Yards and Docks, Navy Department, World War 1917-1918*. Washington, D.C. 1921, p. 70.

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depot, a radio station, and a training camp all at the Navy Yard.³⁰ In addition, established factories, such as the Naval Clothing Factory, expanded their operations to support naval operations during World War I. The factory employed 1,000 people, mostly women, during the war.³¹ Building construction continued at the northern portion of the naval base near the Marine Barracks, with additional support buildings, medical officers' quarters and temporary hospital buildings. See Figure 9 for the plan of the Charleston Navy Yard in 1918.

With the end of World War I, employment and construction activity at the Charleston Navy Yard abruptly declined. With the Naval Clothing Factory and Camp Bagley closing and ship repair stalling, employment dwindled. The Navy planned to close Charleston Navy Yard in 1922, again in 1931, and again in 1933 due to the insufficient availability of work. State and local politicians helped persuade the Navy to keep the Charleston Navy Yard open.³²

Despite the interwar uncertainty surrounding the Yard's future, the barracks continued to serve the Yard's limited but important USMC presence and remained the Corps' most significant physical presence at the base. In 1932, the USMC detachment included four officers and 109 non-commissioned officers and men. The Marines participated in drills at the parade ground, weekly ceremonies, and gave small arms instruction to Naval Reserve officers.³³ The parade ground was originally a large open space to the east of the barracks. As the lead up to World War II renewed construction and development throughout the Navy Yard, this open space was repurposed and developed, prompting the Marine Corps to use the much smaller open green space to the south of the barracks.³⁴ The Marine Corps' presence and activities remained steady during the 1930s without the expansion witnessed at other sections of the naval shipyard.³⁵ A U.S. Navy Yard map from June 30, 1934 shows the Marine Reservation occupying 58.26 acres with four Marine Officers' quarters, the Marine Barracks, a storehouse, a recreation building, storage buildings, a garbage house, a heating plant building, and a guard room.³⁶

By 1941, the Marine Reservation was approximately forty-six acres and numerous support buildings and structures were adjacent to the barracks. USMC Officers' quarters included single dwellings for the Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, Post Exchange Officer, and Marine Officer. A storehouse, a recreation building, storage buildings, a garbage house, a heating building, two subsistence buildings, a greenhouse, a Marine garage, a paint shop, a guard room and general utility building, and a fixed magazine storage building were to the north of the barracks. The Marine Gate was located at the western boundary of the Navy Yard (see Figures 1

³⁰ Goodwin, *Inventory, Evaluation, and Nomination of Military Installations: Naval Base Charleston, Final Report*. 1995, p. 22.

³¹ McNeil, Jim. *Charleston's Navy Yard, A Picture History*. Charleston: Naval Civilian Administrators Association, 1985, p.49, 57.

³² Hamer, Fritz P. *Charleston Reborn: A Southern City, Its Navy Yard, and World War II*. (Charleston: The History Press, 2005). p. 21.

³³ Goodwin, *Inventory, Evaluation, and Nomination of Military Installations: Naval Base Charleston, Final Report*. 1995, p. 29.

³⁴ Ibid., Figures 6 and 7.

³⁵ ibid, p. 29.

³⁶ Hamer, Fritz. *Charleston Reborn: A Southern City, Its Navy Yard, and World War II*. The History Press, Charleston, South Carolina, p. 18-19.

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and 2).³⁷ Additional World War II development at the Marine Reservation included four new quarters (781, 782, M-11, and M-10) and Marine support buildings (M-1262 and M-82) constructed by 1964 (see Figure 11).³⁸ The USMC detachment's main role at the navy base was to provide security for the navy base and activities at the installation. The Marines were also responsible for operating the Navy's brig, providing internal security, and performing shore patrols.³⁹ This period also marked the end of racial segregation in the United States military and the Marine Corps was fully integrated by 1951.⁴⁰

With the end of World War II in 1945, the Navy drastically reduced its workload at the Charleston Navy Yard. General Order No. 223 (September 14, 1945) created the U.S. Naval Base, Charleston. The Charleston Navy Yard was renamed "Charleston Naval Shipyard" one component of the Naval Base, Charleston. Its major functions became decommissioning and disposing of vessels.⁴¹ The Navy consolidated all naval activities at the installation, including the recently renamed Charleston Naval Shipyard, the Marine Barracks, the Charleston Naval Air Station, the Navy Hospital, the receiving station, the ammunition depots, the training station, and the radio station, into the Naval Base Charleston, under the command of the Commandant Sixth Naval District.⁴²

After World War II, the U.S. Navy continued to rebuild ships and submarines at the base. In 1952 a fleet training center was established and during the 1960s, the installation became a home port for the Atlantic fleet.⁴³ The Charleston Naval Shipyard was designated a nuclear-powered submarine repair facility in the 1960s.⁴⁴ According to a 1964 Charleston Naval Shipyard, U.S. Naval Station map, the Marine Barracks and parade ground was located on the 23.01-acre Marine Reservation within the approximate 1,211 total acres of U.S. Navy land (not including water and marsh acreage), and the Marine Gate was closed. In addition, by 1964, Officers' Quarters 1 and 2 were no longer extant (Figure 11).⁴⁵ The Marines were reorganized around 1974 as greater emphasis was placed on providing security at the Naval Weapons Station, Charleston. Commissioned in 1941, the Naval Weapons Station was located approximately five miles up the Cooper River from the Charleston Navy Yard. The Naval Weapons Stations was intended as an ammunition depot and received various types of ammunition and their components manufactured from private contractors. The materials were assembled, stored, and then transported and loaded onto vessels at the Charleston Navy Yard. Eventually, the Naval

³⁷ U.S. Naval Yard Map, Charleston, S.C. Section 1, June 30, 1941.

³⁸ Map of Charleston Naval Shipyard, U.S. Naval Station and Contiguous Activities, Existing and Planned, as of July 1, 1964.

³⁹ Rigsbee, Fred. "Sentry Duty Tough On Leathernecks," Charleston News and Courier (published as The News and Courier The Evening Post), Oct. 28, 1979.

⁴⁰ MacGregor, *Integration of the Armed Forces*, 460.

⁴¹ Smith, P.B. "Sixty Years at Charleston Naval Shipyard." Bureau of Ships Journal 11 (March 1962): p. 16-19.

⁴² Cannan, Deborah K. et al. Charleston Navy Yard Historic District National Register of Historic Places nomination. 2006.

⁴³ R. Christopher Goodwin and Associates, Inc. *National Historic Context for Department of Defense Installations, 1790-1940, Volumes III of IV*. (Frederick: 1995). p. 225-227

⁴⁴ Smith, P.B. "Sixty Years at Charleston Naval Shipyard." Bureau of Ships Journal 11 (March 1962): p. 16-19.

⁴⁵ Map of Charleston Naval Shipyard, U.S. Naval Station and Contiguous Activities, Existing and Planned, as of July 1, 1964.

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Weapons Station also began not only storing ammunition but performing upkeep on and issuing ammunition, and disposing of unserviceable ammunition.⁴⁶

By 1979, the USMC detachment at the Naval Base had approximately 100 men, housed at the Marine Barracks, and approximately 400 men were assigned to the Naval Weapons Station USMC detachment. The primary mission of the USMC detachment at the Naval Base was to guard the seven gates to the Charleston Naval Base, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The detachment was trained to respond to security needs including anything from enemy agent infiltration to brig riots.⁴⁷

In November 1976, the USMC officially recommended the reorganization and consolidation of the Marine detachments at the Naval Base Charleston and at the Naval Weapons Station Charleston. The USMC recommended that in 1977 the Marine Barracks, Naval Base, Charleston and the Marine Barracks, Naval Weapons Stations, Charleston would be consolidated and recognized as "Marine Barracks, Charleston" with headquarters at the Naval Weapons Station, Charleston, South Carolina.⁴⁸

Criterion C: Architecture

Architecture of the Marine Barracks at Charleston Navy Yard

The Marine Barracks, Charleston Navy Yard property is also significant under Criterion C at the local level for architecture as an excellent example of early twentieth-century Classical Revival military architecture. The building was designed by prominent architect Jules Gabriel Henri de Sibour (1872-1938). According to the original floor plans, the Marine Barracks was designed by de Sibour in June 1909. It was constructed in 1910 to house and accommodate the Marine detachment on the Marine Reservation at the Charleston Navy Yard.

The initial phase of construction at the Charleston Navy Yard from 1903 to 1909 included industrial shipyard buildings, administrative buildings, and officers' housing.⁴⁹ The Marine Barracks, constructed just after this initial construction phase, was situated north and west of the shipyard in the developing Naval Hospital and Marine Reservation area. The original twenty-eight permanent structures built at the Navy Yard in the first decade of the twentieth century include the 1910 Classical Revival Marine Barracks, the 1908 Neoclassical Administration Building (Figure 17), the 1909 Beaux Arts Central Power Plant building (Figure 18), and numerous red-brick Classical Revival-style industrial buildings within the NRHP-listed Charleston Navy Yard Historic District (Figures 19 and 20).⁵⁰ The scale, massing, and architectural style of the Marine Barracks, reflects the U.S. Navy's use of popular high

⁴⁶ HHM and Brockington and Associates, Inc. *Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plan and Cold War Historic Resources Survey of Naval Weapons Station Charleston, Charleston, South Carolina*. March 2008, p. 8-29.

⁴⁷ Rigsbee, Fred. "Sentry Duty Tough On Leathernecks," *Charleston News and Courier* (published as *The News and Courier The Evening Post*), Oct. 28, 1979.

⁴⁸ USMC letter, 2 Nov. 1976.

⁴⁹ Cannan, Deborah K. et al. *Charleston Navy Yard Historic District National Register of Historic Places nomination*. 2006.

⁵⁰ Poplin et al. *Architectural Survey in Support of South Carolina Public Railway's Proposed Intermodal Container Transfer Facility, Charleston, South Carolina*. January 2015. p. 44

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architectural styles of the period and symbolizes the importance of the USMC's presence at the Charleston Naval Yard.

One of the most important planning philosophies to emerge from the late nineteenth century originated from l'Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. Beaux-Arts design standards emphasized monumentality, symmetry, classical ornament, and hierarchy in support of civic institutions. The work of many prominent Beaux-Arts architects was featured at the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. Classical designs displayed at the Columbian Exposition greatly influenced American architecture and city planning through the first quarter of the twentieth century.⁵¹

The turn of the twentieth century was a period when the United States was becoming a recognized world power, and these high style buildings symbolically linked the United States with past civilizations. The Revival styles became popular at the same time the U.S. Navy was witnessing increased funding, technological advances, and expansion throughout the country.⁵² Many of the original industrial and administrative buildings constructed at the Navy Yard are large in scale partially due to their function to house shipbuilding, repair, and heavy industrial processes. These original Revival-style Navy Yard buildings are also large-scale and elaborate because they are designed in the popular architectural styles of the period. The monumental, red brick Marine Barracks exhibits key design characteristics of the Classical Revival style including its symmetrical design, massive two-story portico with Doric-inspired columns and wide entablature, and symmetrical fenestration pattern. In addition, the exterior brickwork and concrete water course possess refined classical detailing.

Jules Henri de Sibour

The Marine Barracks also represents the work of master architect Jules Henri de Sibour (1872-1938). A prominent French-born architect who lived and worked in the U.S., de Sibour is best known for his early twentieth-century grand dwellings, office buildings, and apartment buildings in Washington, D.C. He worked with famous American architect Bruce Price in New York. De Sibour returned to France to study at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts before settling in the U.S. De Sibour maintained the offices of Bruce Price & de Sibour from 1908 to 1911 in New York and in Washington, D.C.⁵³ Many of de Sibour's Washington, D.C. dwellings, later used as embassy buildings, were designed in the Second Empire and Beaux Arts styles.

A J.H. de Sibour-designed building that shares similar scale and massing is the Science Hall, Howard University, in Washington, D.C. (see Figure 21).⁵⁴ The Science Hall is also a red brick, rectangular, multi-story building atop a raised basement, partially below grade, that has a mansard-style roof and symmetrical fenestration pattern. The Classic Revival style is apparent in the concrete watercourse, windowsills, keystones in jack arches, and central partial-width multi-story portico with Doric fluted columns.

⁵¹ Tucker, Hampton et al., Charleston Naval Yard Officers Quarters Historic District nomination, 2007.

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ Access via https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jules_Henri_de_Sibour

⁵⁴ Sibour, Jules Henri De, Architect. *Science Hall, Howard University, Washington, D.C.* Washington D.C, ca. 1990. 1923, Copy Photograph. Photograph. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2005695802/>.

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J.H. de Sibour also designed a USMC building at the Charlestown Navy Yard in Boston, Massachusetts. Marine Corps Administration Building (Building 136), designed by architects J.H. de Sibour and Bruce Price, was constructed in 1909 adjacent to a Marine Barracks and Marine Parade Ground at the Charlestown Navy Yard in Boston. In 1937, the de Sibour-designed Marine Corps Administration Building doubled in size with by an addition that was part of a Works Progress Administration project. This building was documented in 1977 and demolished in 1979.⁵⁵ The Marine Corps Administration Building, Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston was also a brick, rectangular, multi-story building atop a raised basement, built partially below grade, constructed in the Classic Revival style. However, this original building had no porches and featured three-bays with central entrance on the front elevation and a symmetrical fenestration pattern of paired windows on the three main floors.

⁵⁵ Library of Congress. Charlestown Navy Yard, Marine Corps Administration Building, Charlestown Navy Yard, Boston, Suffolk County, MA access via <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/ma1766/>

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Name of Property

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Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
☐ recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
☐ Other State agency
☐ Federal agency
☐ Local government
☐ University
☒ Other

Name of repository: Charleston Naval Complex Redevelopment Authority/Naval Base Museum Authority, North Charleston, South Carolina

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property approximately 1.92 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Latitude: 32°51'47.69"N
32.863247 | Longitude: 79°58'26.76"W
79.9741 |
| 2. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 3. Latitude: | Longitude: |
| 4. Latitude: | Longitude: |

Marine Barracks Charleston

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Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Marine Barracks (Building M-17) sits on a rectangular-shaped parcel of land bordered on the north by Second Street West (also known as Truxtun Avenue); on the west by the street joining Second Street West (also known as Truxtun Avenue) to Marine Avenue and following that in a southeasterly direction approximately 350 feet to include the parade ground; on the east by the western side of Building 766 and following that in a southeasterly direction approximately 350 feet to include the parade ground; and on the south approximately 180 feet extending east-west, approximately 60 feet north of the railroad tracks (or approximately 130 feet north of McMillan Avenue).

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundaries chosen define the parcel of land that historically includes the Marine Barracks and the associated Marine parade ground on the original USMC Reservation at the former Navy Yard Charleston.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Lannie E. Kittrell (with assistance from Kerri Ross)
organization: Brockington and Associates, Inc.
street & number: 498 Wando Park Blvd., Suite 700
city or town: Mt. Pleasant state: South Carolina zip code: 29464
e-mail: lanniekittrell@brockington.org
telephone: 843-881-3128
date: October 15, 2019

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Owner Information

Owner's Name (individual, organization, corporation, etc.): South Carolina Department of Commerce, Division of Public Railways

Marine Barracks Charleston

Charleston Co., SC

Name of Property

County and State

Name of Contact Person (if different from above): Tarek Ravenel, Director of Special Projects

Mailing Address: 540 East Bay Street, Charleston, South Carolina 29403

Telephone: 843-737-8440

E-mail address (if available): TRavenel@palmettorail.com

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: Marine Barracks Charleston (Building M-17), at the former Navy Base

City or Vicinity: North Charleston

County: Charleston

State: South Carolina

Photographer: Lannie E. Kittrell (with assistance from Kerri Ross)

Date Photographed: February and May 2019

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 32: South elevation, facing N
- 2 of 32: South elevation from parade ground, facing N
- 3 of 32: Close up of entrance on eastern half of S elevation, facing N
- 4 of 32: Parade Ground, facing south from N elevation
- 5 of 32: Southwest oblique, facing NE
- 6 of 32: West elevation, close up facing E
- 7 of 32: West elevation, facing SE
- 8 of 32: Northwest Oblique, facing SE
- 9 of 32: North elevation, facing S
- 10 of 32: North elevation, facing SE
- 11 of 32: Central rear wing, facing SE
- 12 of 32: Central rear wing, facing SW
- 13 of 32: Entry at central rear wing, facing SW
- 14 of 32: East elevation, facing W
- 15 of 32: East elevation, facing NW

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16 of 32: First floor verandah, facing W
17 of 32: First floor verandah, facing SW
18 of 32: Second floor verandah, facing SW
19 of 32: First floor central wing, facing south from kitchen
20 of 32: First floor east wing, facing east-northeast from 110
21 of 32: First floor east wing, facing northeast from 110
22 of 32: First floor east wing, facing northeast from 108
23 of 32: First floor east wing, facing south from 110
24 of 32: First floor east wing staircase, facing south
25 of 32: First floor east wing staircase corridor, facing south
26 of 32: Second floor east wing, facing west into corridor
27 of 32: Second floor east wing, facing west into corridor
28 of 32: First floor west wing staircase, facing southeast
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31 of 32: Second floor west wing, facing southwest in 203
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Figure 2. U.S Navy Yard, Charleston, S.C. Section 1. Sheet 1 of 2. June 30, 1941. Close up of northwestern quarter of Navy Yard. Location of Marine Reservation and Naval Hospital complex.

Figure 3. U.S. Marine Corps Barracks, Basement Plan, Charleston, S.C. 1909. CNCRA Plan Room.

Figure 4. U.S. Marine Corps Barracks, First Story Plan, Charleston, S.C. 1909. CNCRA Plan Room.

Figure 5. U.S. Marine Corps Barracks, Second Story Plan, Charleston, S.C. 1909. CNCRA Plan Room.

Figure 6. Marine Company, 1910, Charleston Navy Yard. Image courtesy of North Charleston, History and Archives.

Figure 7. Marine Barracks, Non-Commissioned Officers Quarters, 1909, Charleston Navy Yard. Image courtesy of North Charleston, History and Archives.

Figure 8. Marine Barracks, Charleston Navy Yard, not dated. Image courtesy of North Charleston, History and Archives.

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Figure 9. *Charleston* Quadrangle, South Carolina. U.S. Geological Survey, Department of the Interior, Topography, War Department, Corps of Engineers, U.S. Army, 1918. The “E” shaped Marine Barracks building is west of the shipyard and north of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad.

Figure 10. postcard of Marine Barracks, U.S. Navy Yard, Charleston, SC, ca. 1928. Image courtesy of North Charleston, History and Archives.

Figure 11. Map of Charleston Naval Shipyard, U.S. Naval Station and Contiguous Activities, Existing and Planned, as of July 1, 1964. Sheet 1 of 2. Close up of northwestern quarter of Navy Yard. Location of Marine Reservation and Naval Hospital complex.

Figure 12. Marine Barracks (M-17) South Elevation, facing north. Image from Tucker Preliminary Marine Corps Barracks NRHP nomination, 1993.

Figure 13. Marine Barracks (M-17) Southwest Oblique, facing northeast. Image from Tucker Preliminary Marine Corps Barracks NRHP nomination, 1993.

Figure 14. Marine Barracks (M-17) North Elevation, facing southeast. Image from Tucker Preliminary Marine Corps Barracks NRHP nomination, 1993.

Figure 15. Marine Barracks (M-17) Northeast Oblique, facing southwest. Image from Tucker Preliminary Marine Corps Barracks NRHP nomination, 1993.

Figure 16. Marine Barracks (M-17) East Elevation, facing southwest. Image from Tucker Preliminary Marine Corps Barracks NRHP nomination, 1993.

Figure 17. Administrative Building (1908), 1360 Truxton Avenue. L. Kittrell, 2019.

Figure 18. Central Power Plant (1909), 1975 North Hobson Avenue. L. Kittrell, 2019.

Figure 19. Administrative Building and Storage Facility, Building 8 (1906), 1361 Truxton Avenue. L. Kittrell, 2019.

Figure 20. Woodworking Shop, Building 5 (1904), 2061 Avenue B. L. Kittrell, 2019.

Figure 21. Science Hall, Howard University, Washington DC. Image retrieved from the Library of Congress, <www.loc.gov/item/2005695802/>.

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Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Truxton Ave

Proposed NRHP
Boundary

McMillan Ave



**USMC Barracks,
Naval Base Charleston**

0 50 100 Feet

0 15 30 Meters

Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe,
GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA,
USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Marine Barracks, Charleston Navy Yard

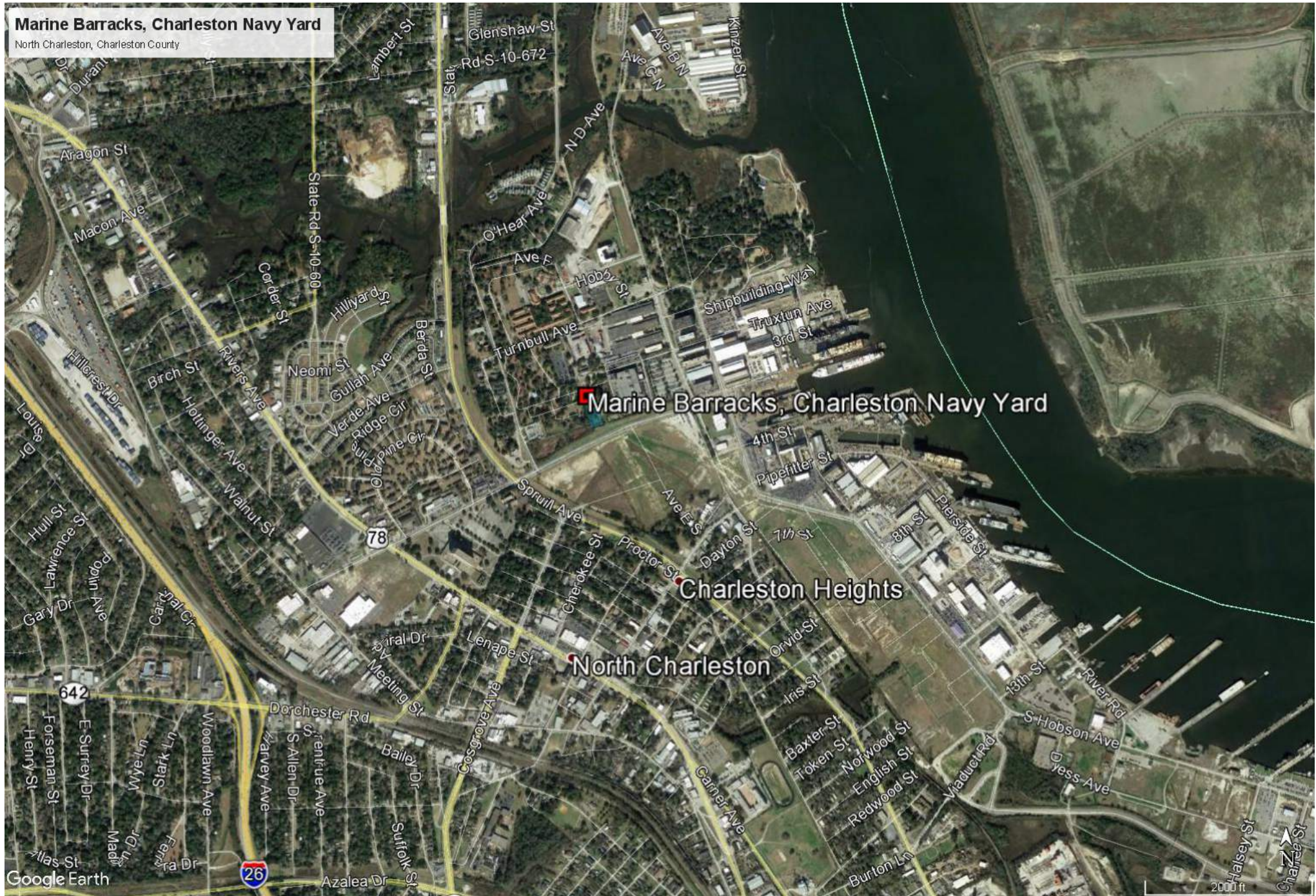
North Charleston, Charleston County

Marine Barracks, Charleston Navy Yard



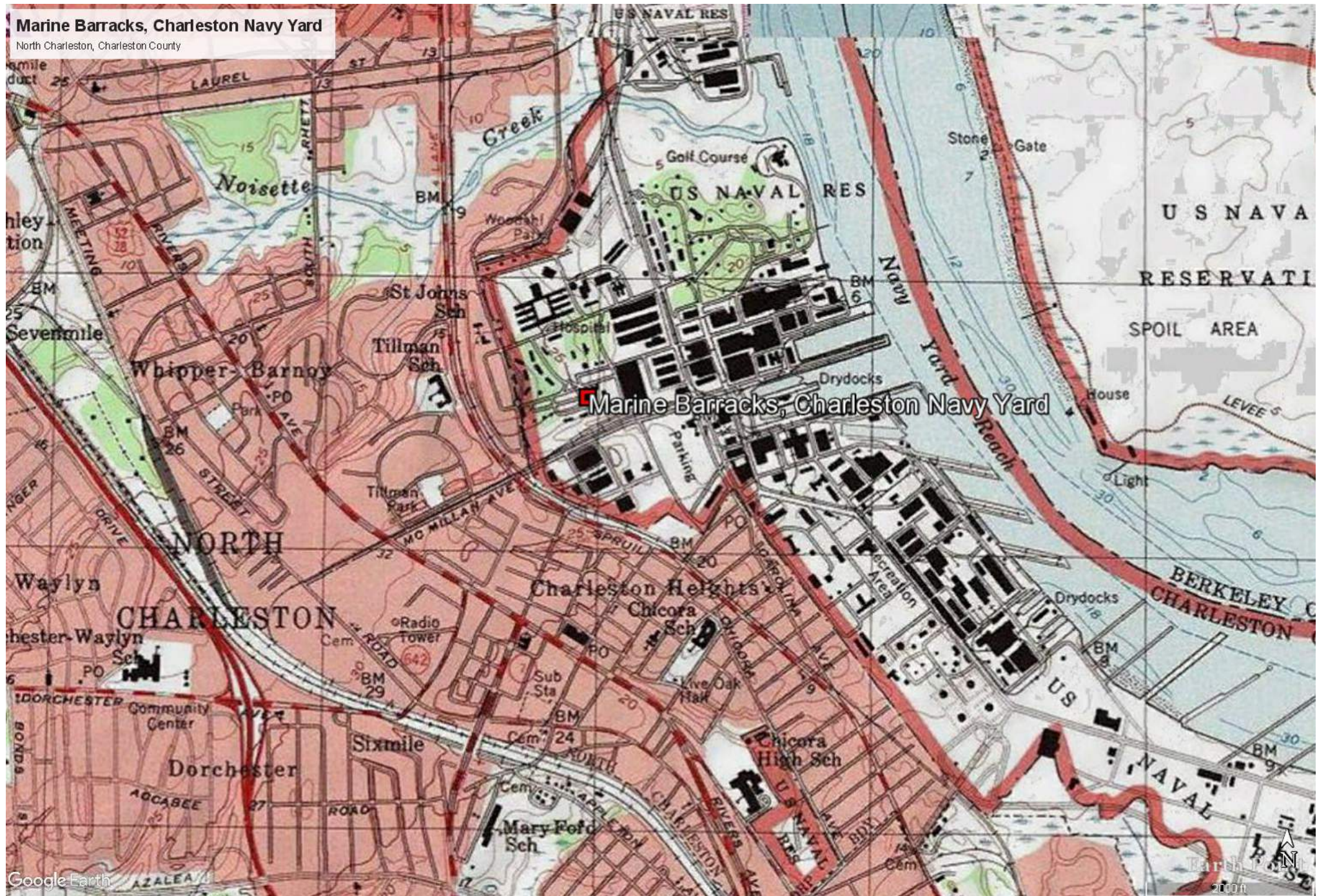
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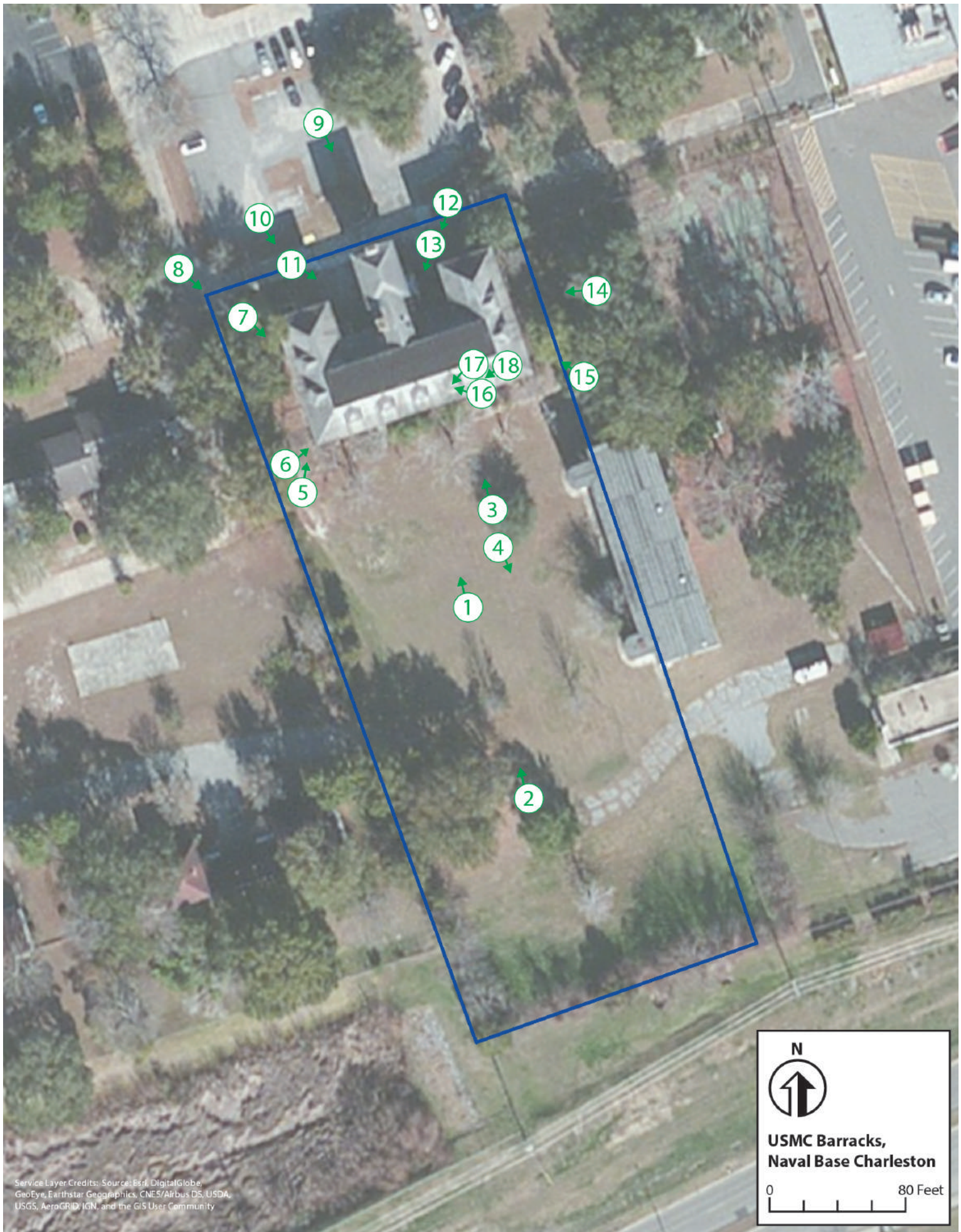
North Charleston, Charleston County

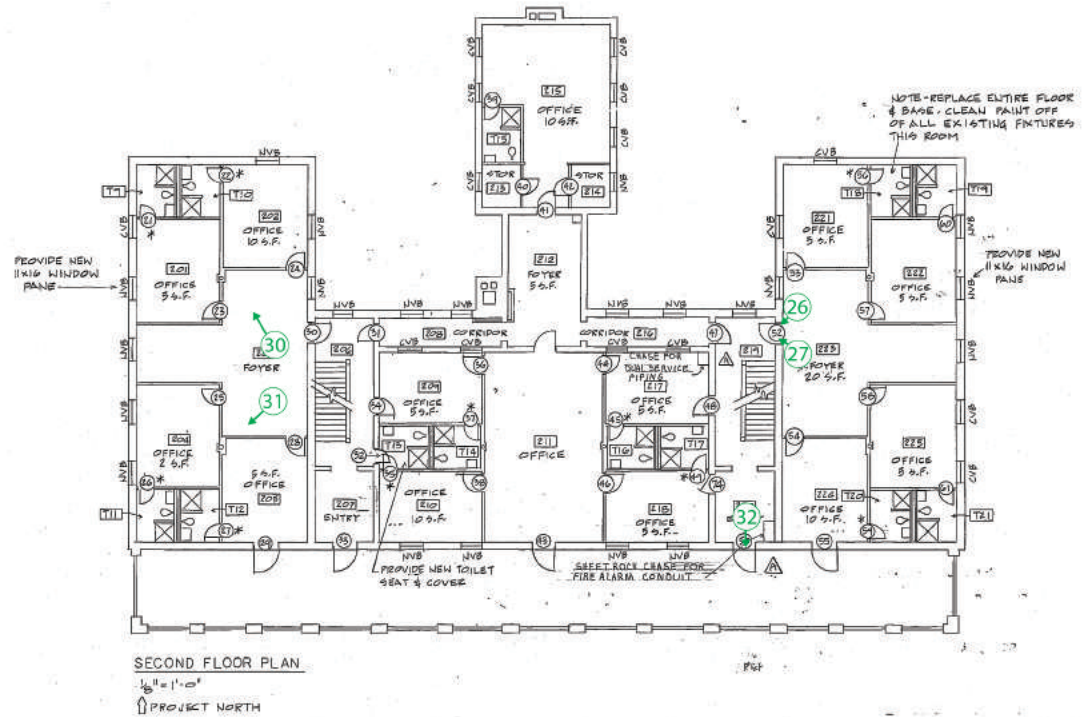
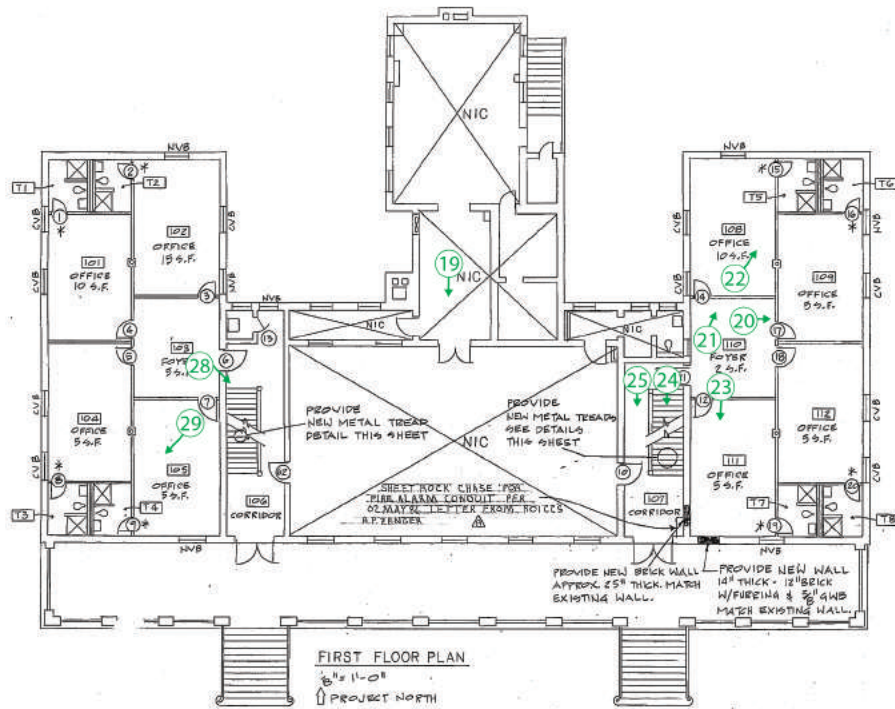


Marine Barracks, Charleston Navy Yard

North Charleston, Charleston County









































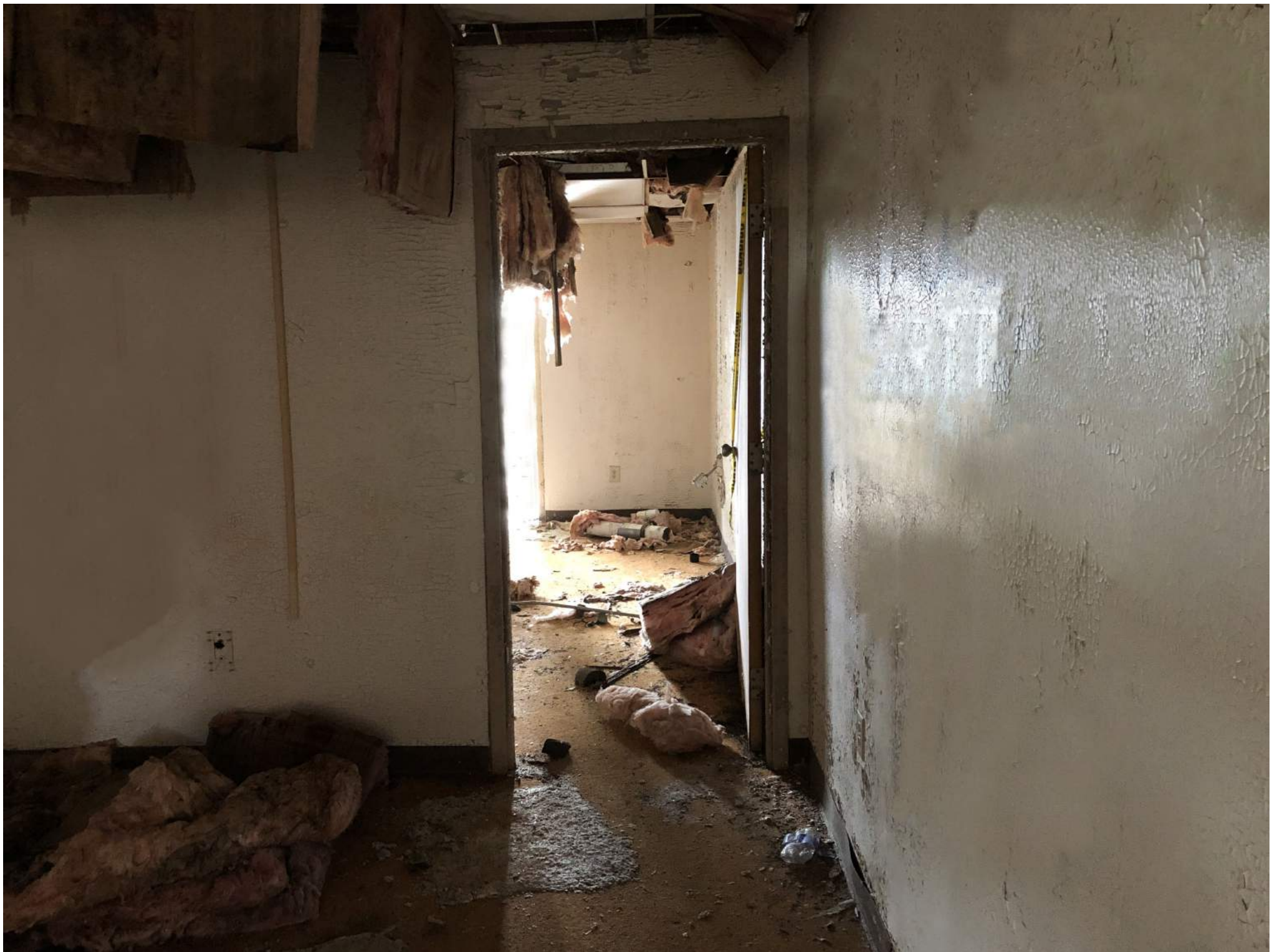






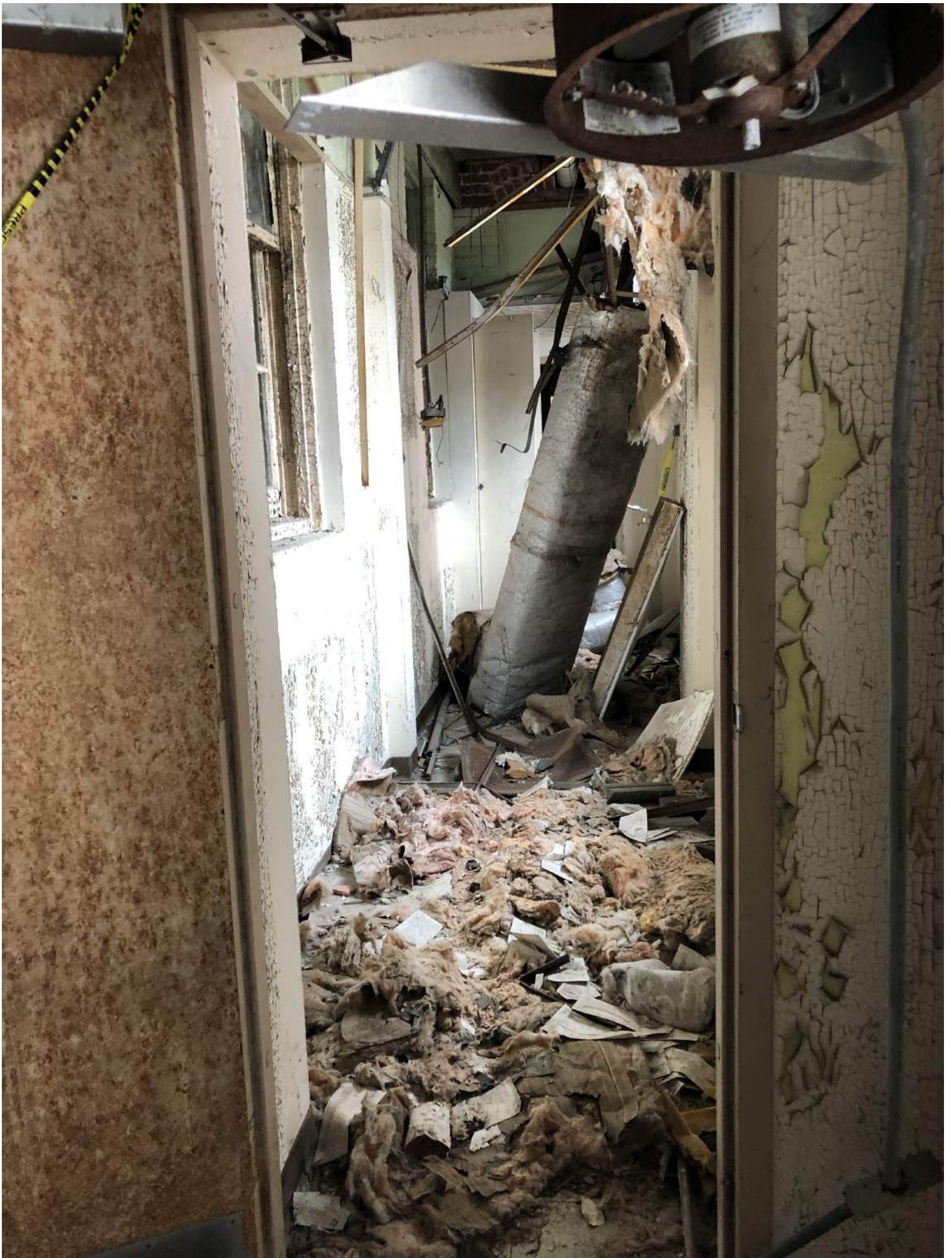




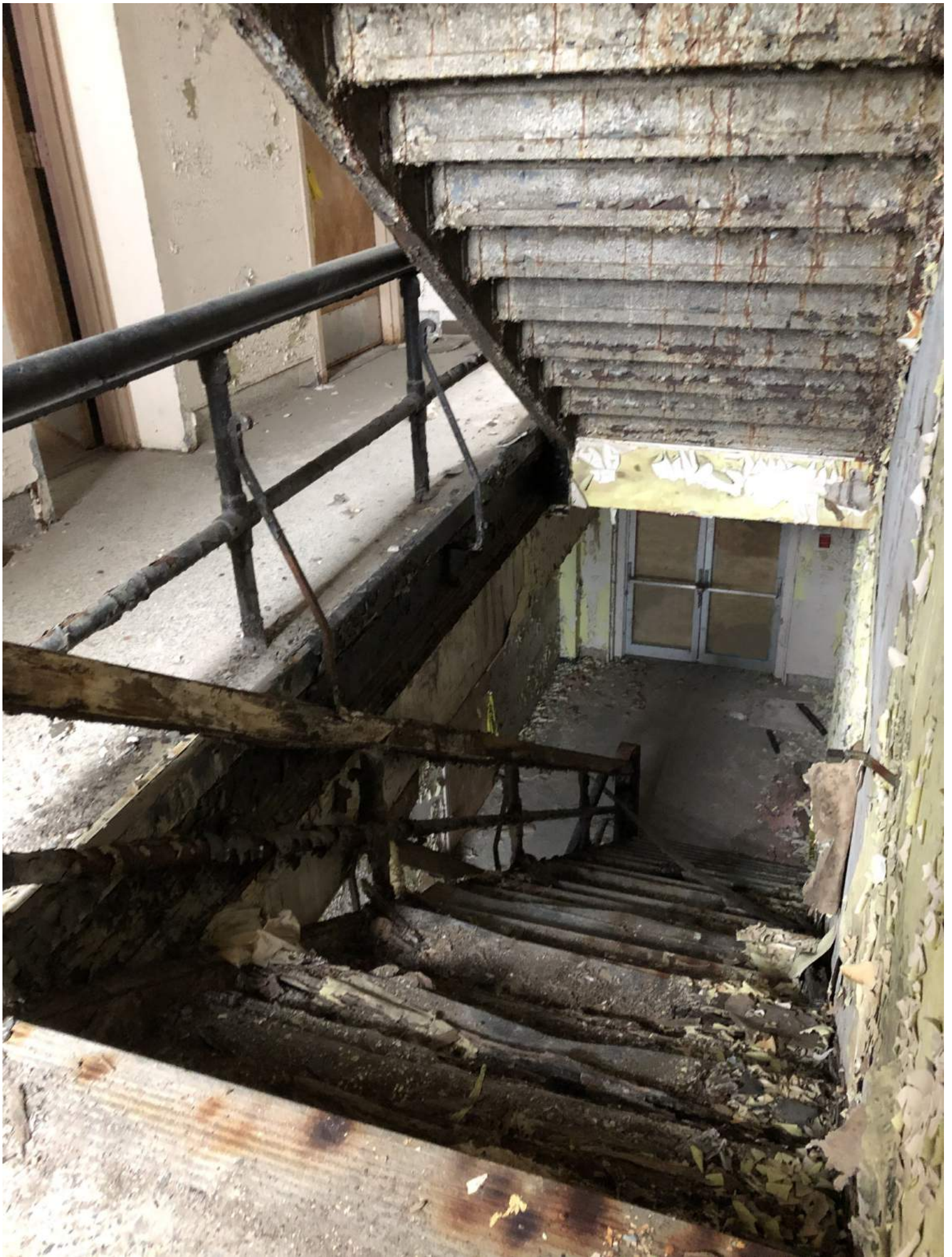










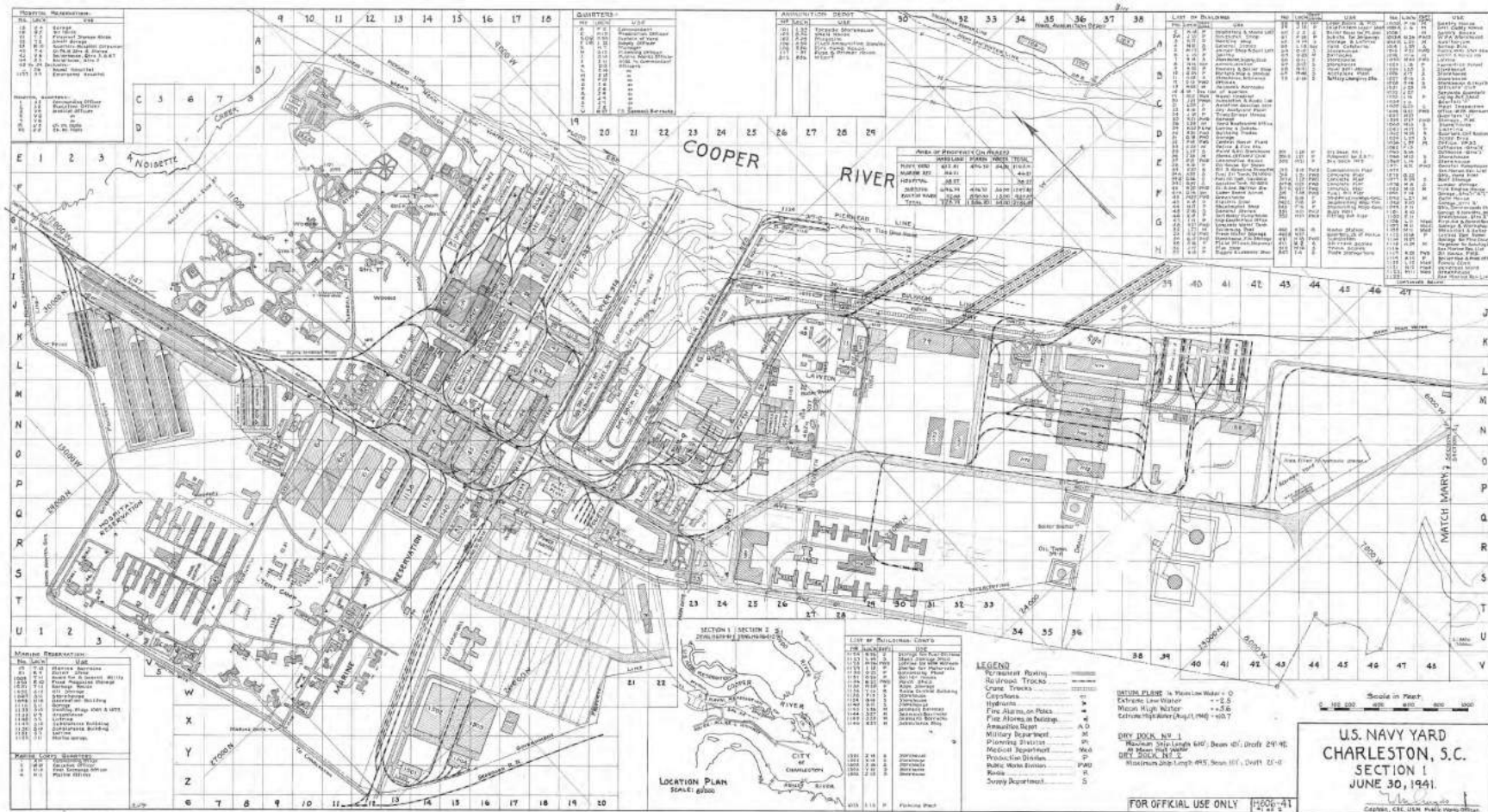


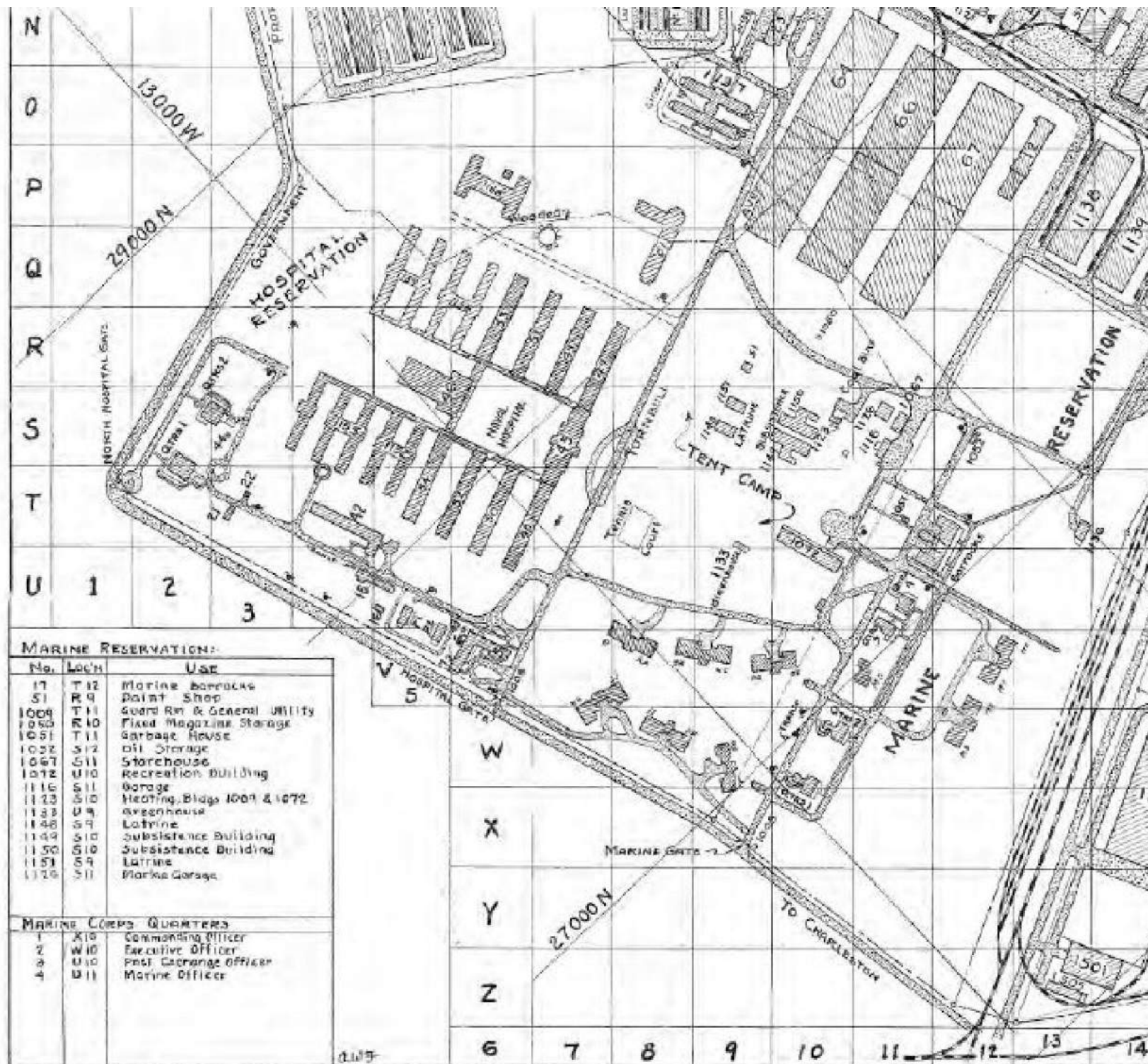


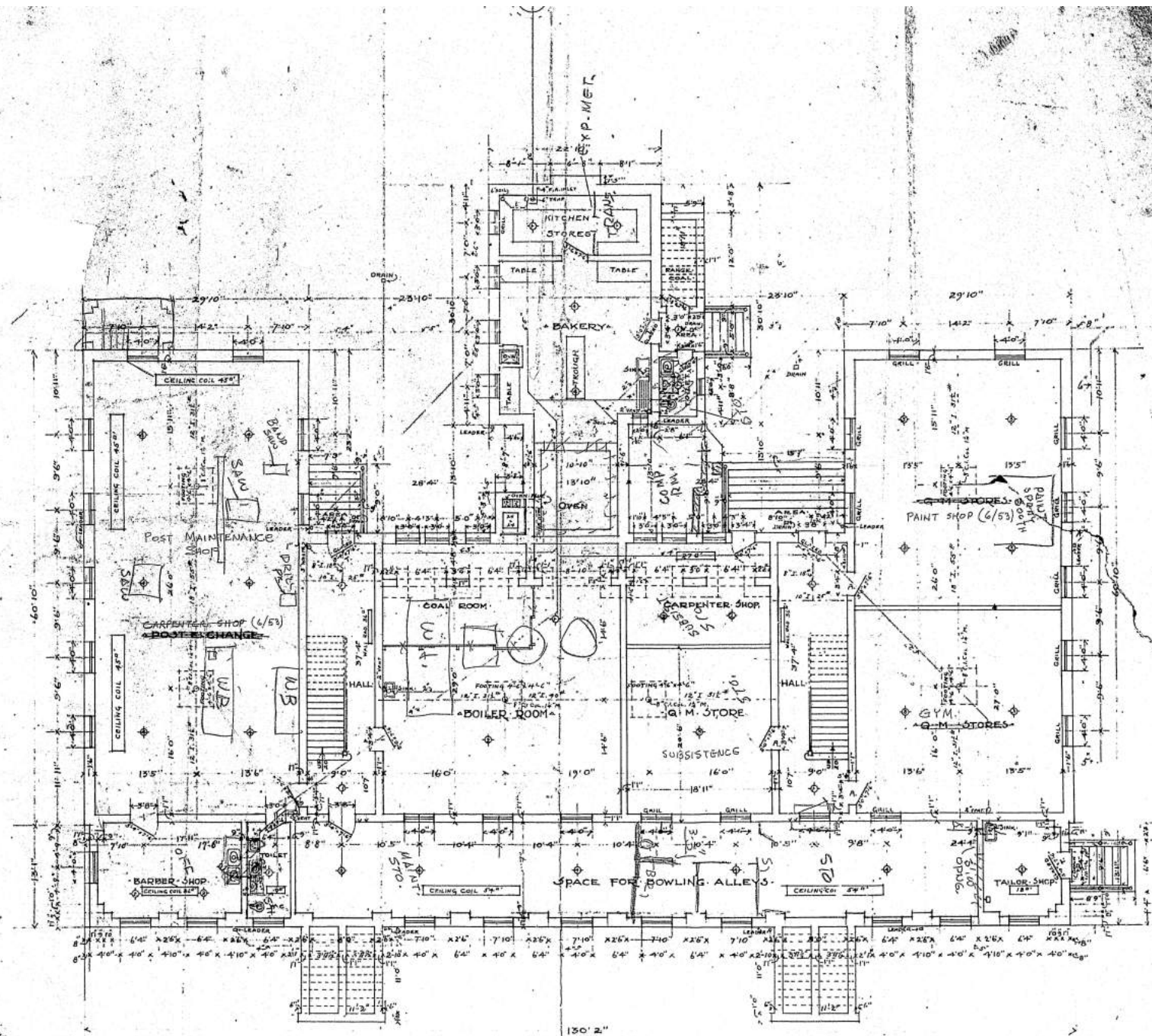












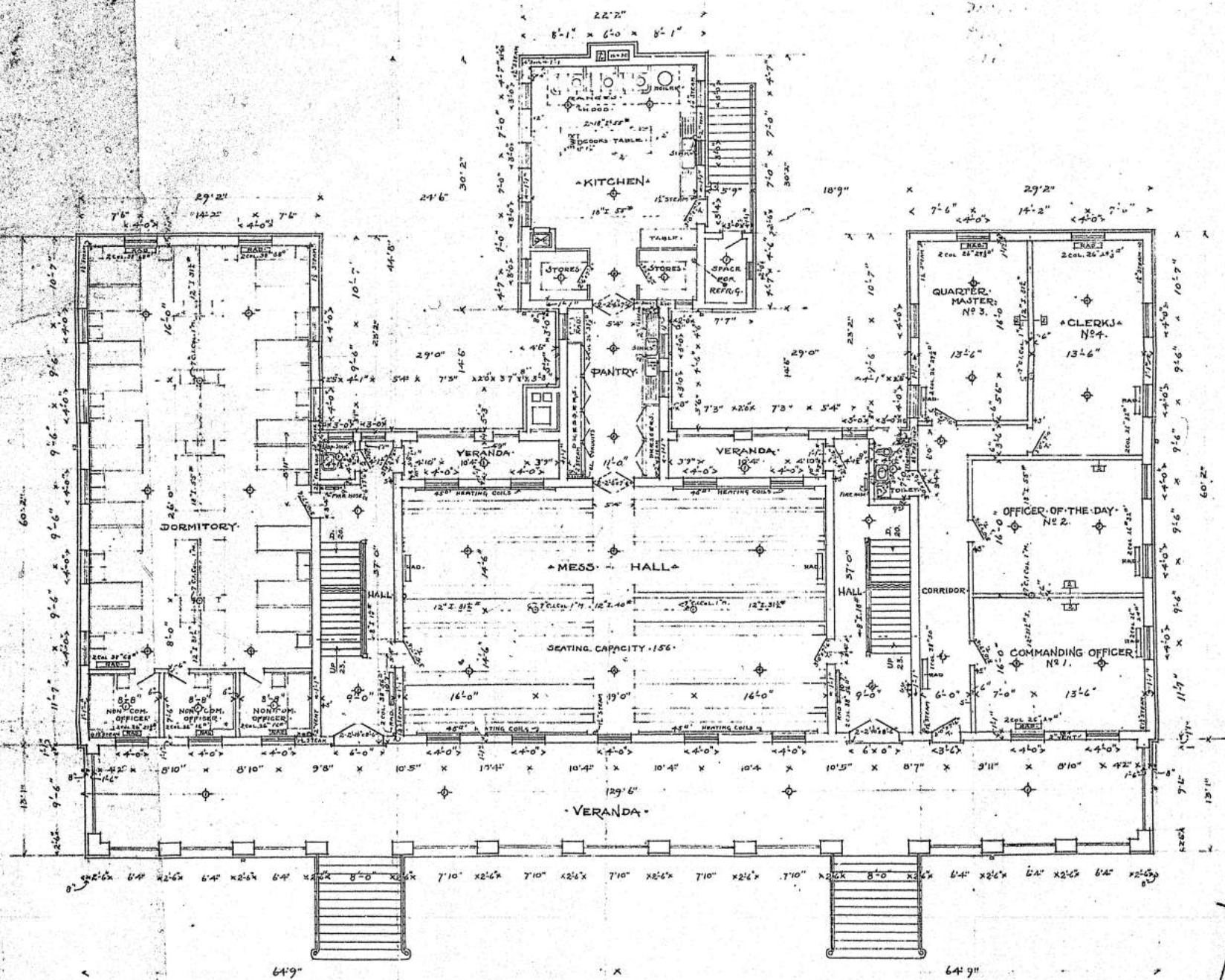
• BASEMENT PLAN •

• HIDE-ROCK ARCHITECTS
527 FIFTH AVE. NEW YORK
• HIBBY BUILDING WASHINGTON D.C.

• U.S. MARINE CORPS BARRACKS,
CHARLES I. JONES, C.

DRAWING NO. (11) OF 12 NO. 0

SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"
JUNE 28-1969



•FIRST STORY PLAN•

•J. L. DE VINCOUR ARCHITECT
327 FIFTH AVE. NEW YORK
•A.L.C.
HINDS BUILDING WASHINGTON D.C.

•U.S. MARINE CORPS BARRACKS
CHARLESTON, S.C.

DRAWING No. (12) PRINT No. (1)

SCALE 1/8" = 1'-0"
JUNE 24 1909

HEAD OF WINDOWS

PLAN

SECTION AT SILL OF WINDOWS
3/4" SCALE

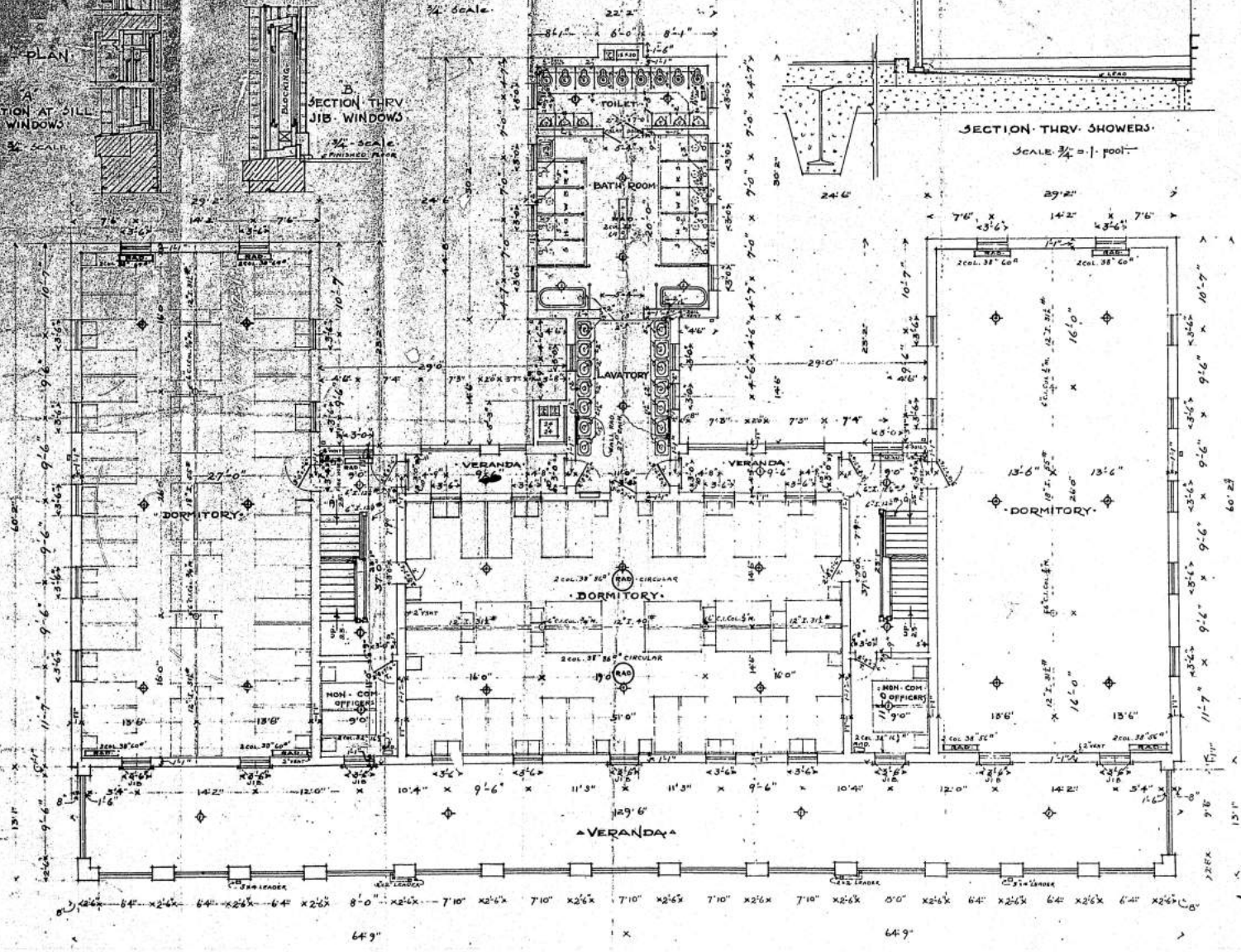
PLAN OF JIB WINDOWS

3/4" SCALE

SECTION THRU JIB WINDOWS
3/4" SCALE
FINISHED FLOOR

SECTION THRU SHOWERS

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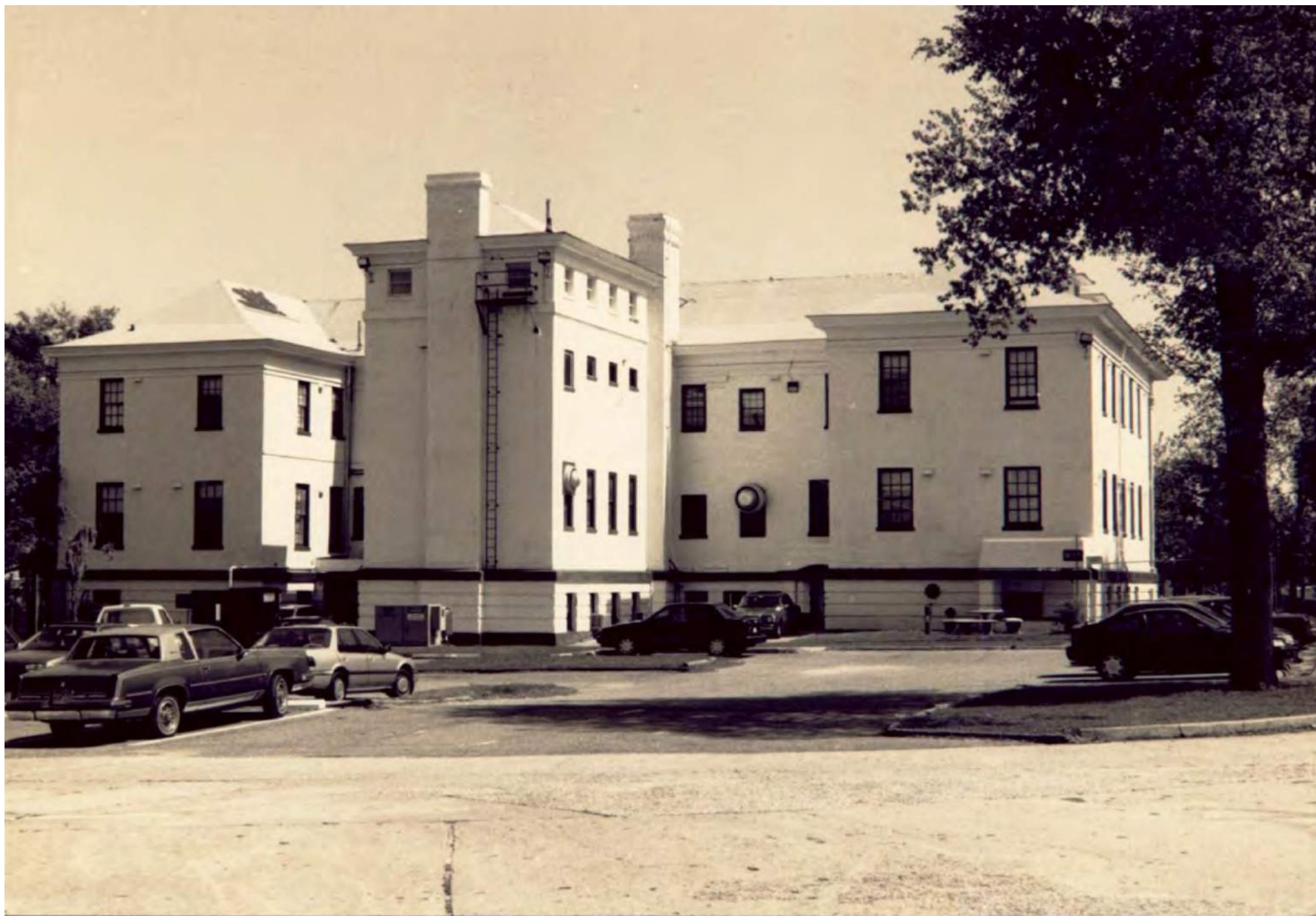


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